

Luther Towers / Luther Village

January 2021

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Happy New Year, everyone. We will hope that 2021 brings us back to a more predictable way of life. We are all optimistic that the coveted vaccinations become available to you very soon. Tricia is working with Walgreens in advance to coordinate in-house vaccinations similar to the flu shot program should such an option be available.

Positive COVID-19 tests and hospitalizations continue to be elevated in Delaware. Yesterday (12.29.20) there were 700 positive cases as compared to 108 positive cases in October. For your information, attached to the newsletter is the Delaware COVID-19 vaccination plan.

I must be candid, I am very concerned about the spread of the virus on our campuses. Over the past two weeks, we've had 10 confirmed cases of COVID-19, the majority of which have been in Luther Towers I. We are relieved that all of our affected residents are recovering. Just as alarming is that our staff has been adversely affected—we have three (3) of our staff members whom have tested positive and out of work. As is the case with our residents, staff members are recovering rapidly and completely.

The same mantra applies: Wear a mask, wash your hands frequently, maintain social distancing of six (6) feet, self-isolate if you tested positive, and self-

quarantine if you have been exposed to someone who tested positive.

Despite all of the written communications, TelAgenda notices, verbal reminders from security staff, and warning letters distributed, we have residents and visitors who defy the established policies conveyed. We are not concerned about residents who genuinely forget their facial covering or are not clear on parameters of time for self-isolation or self-quarantine, we are concerned about the frequent violators—those who disregard these policies.

The rules are in place for everyone's benefit—we don't want to see any of our residents become afflicted with this virulent virus. It goes without saying that we house a population of residents who are most vulnerable for contracting this virus.

I want to re-emphasize some of the rules we have established responsive to the vulnerabilities mentioned above:

- Wear of a facial covering is required when inside any of our facilities and outside, on premises, when unable to maintain social distancing of six feet. We are expending valuable staff time sending warning letters out to residents who have been repeatedly told about this rule...this cannot continue.

- Congregating in our common areas is prohibited. My deputy and I have received complaints from concerned residents about congregating inside and outside the laundry rooms at times when such parties are not doing laundry. We are keeping our laundry rooms open for obvious reasons; please do not congregate if you are not using the facility, and if you are, maintain social distancing and wear of facial coverings.
- Use of the elevators is limited to two (2) people per car at any one time. It takes a matter of seconds to wait for the next car—please be considerate of others. Being in such close quarters causes others to be uncomfortable and anxious.
- We are continuing to perform necessary maintenance within apartments and in common areas. We are limiting maintenance repairs to those that are urgent and emergent to protect both residents and the staff. Definitions for both have been conveyed in previous correspondence. When our maintenance staff do enter your apartment, please don your facial covering and maintain social distancing.
- For those residents who have tested positive, you must self-isolate for the duration directed by your healthcare provider (can be from 10-20 days dependent upon the severity of symptoms). This means staying in your apartment unless an emergency

exists. You should consider using Instacart and/or pharmacy delivery services if you have no family or friends who can deliver sustenance and necessities. We understand that there will be exceptions—please use good judgment.

- Self-quarantining is equally as important—we've sent out the CDC guidelines for this as well.

We are asking that everyone demonstrate personal responsibility when it comes to the rules indicated—it is imperative. We want to prevent the spread of this illness and you can be assured that we will do everything possible to protect you.

I want you to know that we recognize the overwhelming majority of you are following the rules and we do appreciate your cooperation. This very long and detailed article is directed to the frequent violators who divert our staff's attention from providing necessary services to those who are considerate about others, personally responsible, and always helpful.

We are here for you—always available to answer your questions and to help you get through this difficult time. We are but a phone call away.

On behalf of the staff, I wish you a healthy, safe, and happy 2021.

THE BULLY BLOG



What a strange year we had last year, thank God it is behind us now. I personally am looking forward to a fresh start in 2021. Thanks to everyone for the Christmas cards and gifts, they were appreciated. I pray you had a good Christmas, and even more a healthy New Year!

I did receive a letter from DART informing me that they are proposing to eliminate all of the colored stored value cards effective February 14th (this would apply to the \$14 card you purchase from me). They will continue to sell 7 and 30 day passes. However that is all the information I have for now. I will pass on more information as I become aware of it.

In His Spirit,
Kim

“TALK WITH TRICIA”



Hello Everyone! ☺

JANUARY 2021 IS FINALLY HERE! My hope is the New Year brings joy to all of us and we can put Covid 19 behind us very soon! I appreciate everyone working with us and utilizing the black mailbox to bring important paperwork.

If you want to send a thank you note to the wonderful Santa to a Senior program for the gifts that were distributed you can send to:

Home Instead

Santa to a Senior/Amanda Schultz

30 South American Avenue

Dover, DE 19901

The Food Bank of Delaware delivers to Luther Towers and Luther Village once a month. You must be signed up in advance and income qualify. If your income is below \$1723/month you qualify for the Food Box. Call me to sign up at 674-1408 ext 131.

FOOD BOX DELIVERY SCHEDULE FOR JAN 19th is:

Luther Village – 11:30 – 12:00

Luther Towers – 12:15 – 1:00

Thank you to all residents that turned in their 2021 Social Security Benefit statements!

Duplicate Reminder: If you are finding it increasingly difficult to go grocery shopping on your own please remember Harvest Years Senior Center has a personal shopper program. The shopper will go grocery shopping with you or go for you whichever you prefer. Contact me and I will assist you with filling out an application! \$20.00 membership fee for the entire year to join Harvest Years and only \$3 per shopping trip.

Duplicate reminder: If you are interested in setting up an appt for Wills for Seniors please give me a call! It is very important

for everyone to have a Will, Power of Attorney and Advanced Directive. Jacki Chacona a lawyer from Delaware Volunteer Legal Services volunteers her time freely to complete these documents for our seniors at LT/LV. Please take advantage of the opportunity.

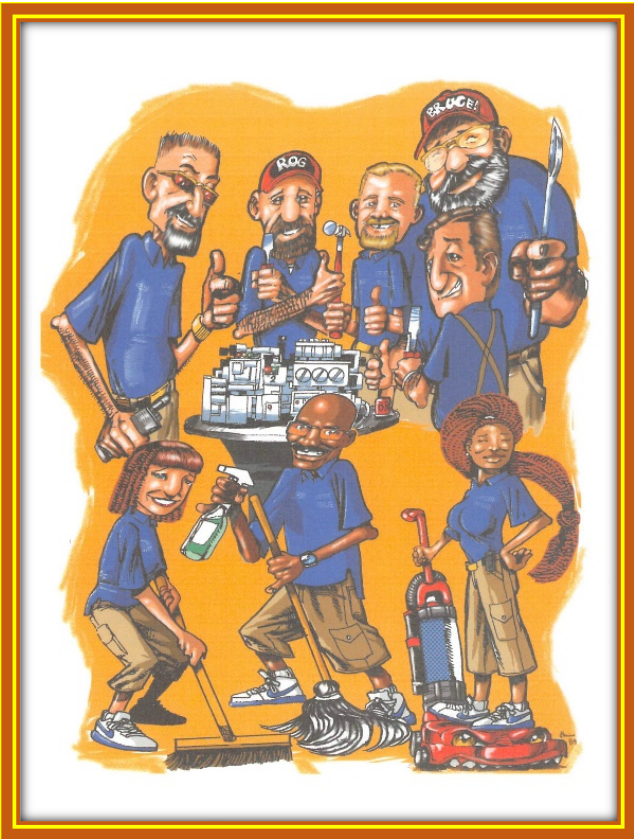
Winner of Pinnacle Rehabilitation and Health Center Trivia Question for December is Gerry Hastings from LV1. Prize was a TARGET gift card!

If you have an answer you would like to submit for this month’s Trivia Question please put it in the BLACK BOX next to security desk (both campuses have one). Jennifer from Pinnacle will do a door prize drawing for those who have the correct answer!!

JANUARY TRIVIA QUESTION:
What TV show did 44 million Americans watch while 27 million watched Eisenhower be sworn in?



Thank you, Tricia



MAINTENANCE NEWS

Pest Control - Luther Towers Apartments

- Jan 27th –4301 - 4316

Pest Control - Luther Village Apartments

- Jan 6th – LV3 – 2nd, 3rd & 4th floor
- Jan 13th - LV2 – entire & LV3 1st floor
- Jan 20th – LV1 – 2nd & 3rd floor
- Jan 27th – LV1 – 1st floor

Kelly’s Reminders: When using shopping carts, please clean and wipe them down before and after you use them. Disinfectant wipes are next to the cart to wipe them down.

Thought for the month

Say “Goodbye” to 2020 and “Hello” to 2021. Better things will happen this year.

Kelly

INFORMATION FOR BOTH CAMPUSES



Rent will be pulled on 5 January. Some months your rent may not come out of your account on the 4th, due to holidays, weekends, etc. **Please check with your bank to verify the rent has been deducted** before pulling your money out assuming the rent was already paid. This will save you from Non-Sufficient Funds problems.

 Read the latest news on coronavirus in Delaware. More Info → (<https://news.delaware.gov/tag/coronavirus/>)




Delaware News Menu

(<https://delaware.gov>)

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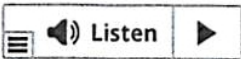
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Delaware News

DPH Finalizes Recommendations For Next Groups Eligible For COVID-19 Vaccine

News (<https://news.delaware.gov/category/news/>) | Date Posted: Tuesday, December 29, 2020



Delaware’s Vaccine Phased Allocation Plan 12.29.20

Week 1-4	Week 5-8	Week 9-12	Week 13-16	Week 17-20	Week 21-24	Week 25-28	Week 29-32
Mid December – Mid January	Mid/late January – Mid/late February	Mid/late February – Mid/late March	March – April	Mid/late April – Mid/late May	Mid/late May – Mid/late June	June	July
					Phase 4 <ul style="list-style-type: none">Anyone who did not have access to vaccines in prior phases		
					Phase 3 <ul style="list-style-type: none">16-49 yearsEssential workers not receiving vaccine in Phase 2		
				Phase 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none">50-64 years16-49 years with moderate-risk medical conditionsOther congregate settingsEssential workers not receiving vaccine in Phase 1			
			Remaining Phase 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none">16-64 years with high-risk medical conditionsHigh-risk congregate settingsOther essential workers				
	Phase 1b <ul style="list-style-type: none">65 years and olderFrontline essential workers						
Phase 1a <ul style="list-style-type: none">Residents of LTCFsHCP							

DOVER (Dec. 29, 2020) – The Delaware Division of Public Health (DPH) has finalized its recommendations for Phase 1b, the next groups who will be considered eligible to receive a COVID-19 vaccine. These groups include frontline essential workers and persons 65 and older. Currently, the state is in Phase 1a of vaccine rollout which includes vaccinations for health care personnel with direct contact with ill patients or infectious material, emergency medical services agencies, and long-term care staff and residents. Vaccination for Phase 1b groups is expected to begin by the end of January. In early December, DPH announced it would make the vaccine available in several phases. Important determining factors for each phase would include determining who is at greatest risk for death and illness from the virus, ensuring equitable distribution of the vaccine, and maintaining the functioning of critical health care systems. How many doses of the vaccine each group would be able to get is dependent upon vaccine supply.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s (CDC) Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) voted on Dec. 20, 2020, that Phase 1b should include frontline essential workers and persons 75 years and older. ACIP defines frontline essential workers as: First Responders (Firefighters, Police), Education (teachers, support staff, child care staff), Food and Agriculture, Manufacturing, Corrections workers, U.S. Postal Service workers, public transit workers, and grocery store workers. As is currently the case with health care workers to whom the vaccine has been distributed, leaders in these industries will be asked to identify which of their staff should receive the vaccine before others based on factors such as frequent close contact with the public, and inability to social distance consistently at work. DPH is already working with several of these groups to assist them in their planning to secure vaccination partners. Frontline essential workforce leaders in these categories who have not heard from DPH are encouraged to visit the Agencies, Organizations, and Businesses section of [de.gov/covidvaccine](https://delaware.gov/covidvaccine) (<https://coronavirus.delaware.gov/vaccine/>) and complete the Planning Survey for Organizations with Essential Workforces.

On Dec. 22, the State Ethics Advisory Group voted to recommend adopting the ACIP Phase 1b approach. However, DPH decided to lower the age the state would consider eligible in Phase 1b from 75 to 65 based on statewide COVID-related deaths. While the median age for deaths among White and Asian persons is 82 and 83 respectively, the median age for deaths among Blacks is 74 and it is 66 for Hispanic individuals.

"Making this small change from the ACIP recommendations is the right thing to do for all people in our state," said DPH Director Dr. Karyl Rattay. "Doing so provides us the opportunity to vaccinate and protect many more Delawareans, especially those who are already disproportionately impacted by COVID-19 to begin with due to a variety of factors."

The State Ethics Advisory Group did not address any other groups, but it is expected to vote on a Phase 1c group soon. Vaccine is estimated to begin to be available for some individuals in Phase 1b groups in mid- to late January; DPH will provide updates on timing as they become available. Due to limited supplies of the vaccines, they may not be available to everyone in Phase 1b initially. Individuals 65+ will be asked to contact their health care provider directly near the end of January to discuss their options for receiving the vaccine. The next phases after 1b could see vaccine availability in mid- to late February, and it likely will be April before there is more widespread availability based on current supply. However, timelines are flexible as more supply could be available if additional vaccines are approved for emergency use by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

Since Dec. 15, 8,422 vaccine doses have been administered in Delaware, and a total of 28,400 combined doses of the Moderna and Pfizer-BioNTech vaccines have been received. All of the state's hospital systems have received vaccine for staff, as have the Federally Qualified Health Centers. Some long-term care facilities began vaccinating in the last two weeks, while waiting for the federal pharmacy partnership program in Delaware to kick off this week. Last week, Kent County EMS vaccinated some of its staff, while more will be vaccinated this week. Both New Castle County and Sussex County EMS have plans to vaccinate staff this week as well.

DPH has set up a Vaccine Call Center at 1-833-643-1715. Those who are deaf or hard of hearing should call 2-1-1 or text their ZIP code to 898-211. **DPH's Vaccine Call Center is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, and from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Saturday.** Individuals can email their questions concerning the vaccine to Vaccine@Delaware.gov (<mailto:Vaccine@Delaware.gov>). Individuals can also visit de.gov/covidvaccine (<http://de.gov/covidvaccine>) for up-to-date information.

(<https://news.delaware.gov/2020/12/29/dph-finalizes-recommendations-for-next-groups-eligible-for-covid-19-vaccine/?print=pdf>)



Print (<https://news.delaware.gov/2020/12/29/dph-finalizes-recommendations-for-next-groups-eligible-for-covid-19-vaccine/?print=print>)

Related Topics: coronavirus disease 2019 (<https://news.delaware.gov/tag/coronavirus-disease-2019/>), COVID-19 (<https://news.delaware.gov/tag/covid-19/>), COVID-19 Vaccine (<https://news.delaware.gov/tag/covid-19-vaccine/>), DE Division of Public Health (<https://news.delaware.gov/tag/de-division-of-public-health/>), Delaware Division of Public Health (<https://news.delaware.gov/tag/delaware-division-of-public-health/>)



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- Cities & Towns (<https://delaware.gov/topics/municipalities>)
- Delaware State Code (<http://delcode.delaware.gov/>)
- State Regulations (<http://regulations.delaware.gov/>)
- Business First Steps (<https://firststeps.delaware.gov/>)

LUTHER TOWERS (674-1408)

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Jessica Parsons, Director

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LT1 Reporter – VACANT

LT2 Reporter – VACANT

LT3 Reporter – David Masterman

LT4 Reporter – VACANT

LV1 Reporter – Sam Shaver

LV2 Reporter – Mona Cole

LV3 Reporter - VACANT

BEAUTY SHOP

(LT1) Wed, Thur, Fri 674-1408, Ext 129

(LV3) Tues 674-2712, Ext 305

LUTHER VILLAGE (674-3780)

LV 1 REPRESENTATIVE

(VACANT)

LIBRARIAN

LVI – Joan Jones

LV2 – Vacant

LV3 - Vacant

LV 2 REPRESENTATIVE

Mona Cole

GAMES

Arlene Baldwin

Jane Hastings - Dominoes/Pokeno

LV 3 REPRESENTATIVE

(VACANT)

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FINANCES

SUNSHINE REPRESENTATIVE (LV1)